

C6. CHAPTER 6

CONGRESSIONAL INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS

C6.1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this chapter is to provide the necessary guidance for periodic reviews of existing Congressional information requirements. DoD Components may recommend the termination of requirements for reports that no longer serve their intended purpose, no Congressional use is evident, the information is available to the Congress from other sources, the cost and time involved in preparing the report outweighs the benefits, or the information requirement has been completed but not administratively removed from the requiring legislation.

C6.2. SCOPE

This chapter documents the procedures for recommending termination of recurring information requirements including reports, certifications and notifications imposed by the Congress on the DoD Components. These requirements are predominately contained in, but not limited to, the DoD Military Construction, Authorizations and Appropriations Acts. Annually, OUSD(C) notifies the responding DoD Components of the information requirements contained in these Acts in accordance with DoD Directive 5545.2 (reference (aa)).

C6.3. EXEMPTIONS

The following types of Congressional information requirements are exempt from the review and termination procedures of this chapter:

C6.3.1. House and Senate Conference reports that accompany the annual Authorizations, Appropriations and Military Construction Acts; and

C6.3.2. One-time information requirements.

C6.4. RESPONSIBILITIES

C6.4.1. DoD Components. In response to requests for recommendations for termination of Congressional information requirements, DoD Component program managers, in coordination with their legislative liaison staff, shall:

C6.4.1.1 Review their Congressional information requirements and identify reports which meet one or more of the following criteria:

C6.4.1.1.1. No longer serve their intended purpose;

C6.4.1.1.2. No Congressional use is evident;

C6.4.1.1.3. Provide information which is available to the Congress from other sources;

C6.4.1.1.4. Outweigh the perceived benefits; or

C6.4.1.1.5. Have been completed but not administratively removed from the requiring legislation.

C6.4.1.2. Prepare recommendations to terminate the requirement for submission of reports, certifications or notifications that meet one or more criteria listed in C6.4.1.1., above.

C6.4.1.3. Coordinate with WHS/DIOR to ensure that recommendations for termination of Congressional information requirements are appropriately justified.

C6.4.2. WHS/DIOR shall:

C6.4.2.1. Respond to requests for DoD recommendations for termination of recurring Congressional reporting, notification and certification requirements as requested by the Congress and OMB;

C6.4.2.2. Establish and maintain an inventory of Congressional information requirements to include, but not limited to, a unique identifying record number, the requiring legislation (Public Law and Section or Title and Section of the United States Code), report title and description, responsible DoD Component, frequency, sunset or expiration date, point of contact and review information;

C6.4.2.3. Publish a comprehensive listing of recurring Congressional information requirements on the Internet and provide ad hoc reports to DoD Components on request;

C6.4.2.4. Reconcile the inventory of Congressional information requirements with the National Defense Authorizations, Appropriations, and Military Construction Acts for that fiscal year and the Committee on National Security committee prints entitled "Title 10, United States Code, Armed Forces" and "Compilation of Defense-Related Federal Laws (Other Than Title 10, United States Code)" not less frequently than annually;

C6.4.2.5. Consolidate DoD Component recommendations for termination; and

C6.4.2.6. Coordinate with the Department of Defense Office of General Council; Office of the Inspector General, and the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Legislative Affairs) (OASD(LA)), as appropriate, to:

C6.4.2.6.1. Obtain review and approval of justifications for termination of each Congressional information requirement so recommended;

C6.4.2.6.2. Verify legislation requiring the report; and

C6.4.2.6.3. Coordinate on appropriate repeal or amendment language for submission to the Congress.

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